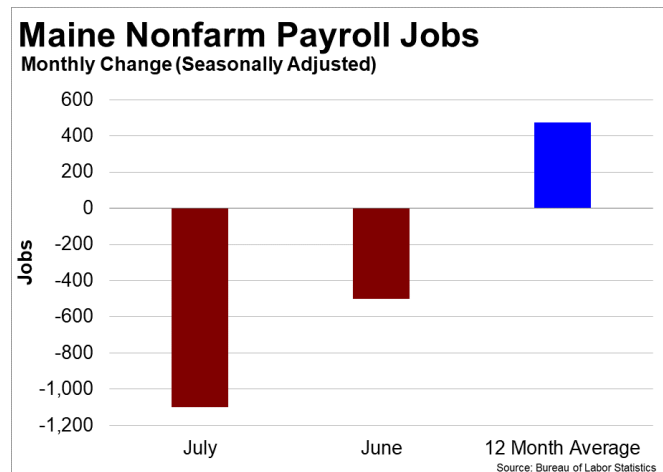
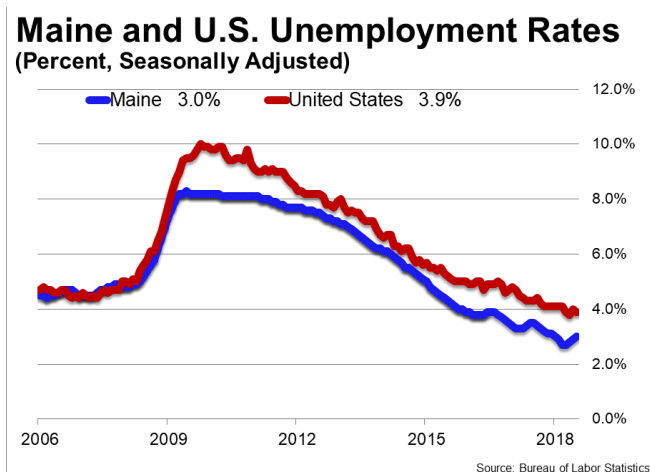




August 17, 2018

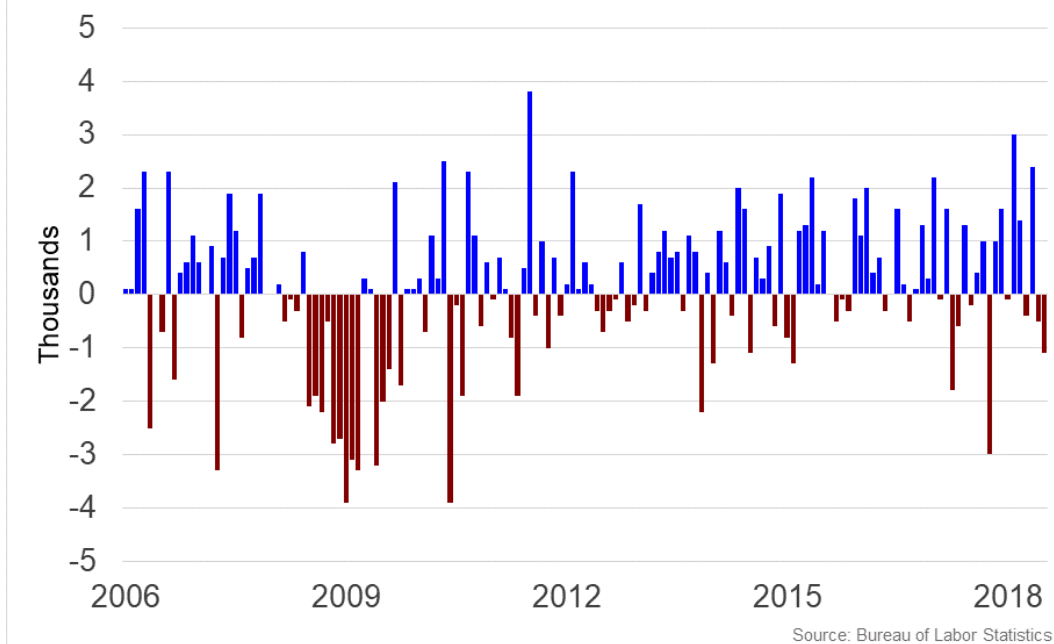
Summary

- **Maine lost 1,100 jobs and the unemployment rate increased by 0.1 percentage point to 3 percent in July** according to Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) data.
- **Over the past twelve months, Maine added 5,700 jobs** and the unemployment rate fell by 0.5 percentage point from 3.5 percent.
- **In July, Maine's private sector lost 1,000 jobs** and over the past twelve months it created 5,400 jobs.
- The number of **unemployed Mainers rose by 1,102 in July**, and over the past year 7,053 Mainers found jobs.
- Maine's **labor force participation rate increased to 63.8 percent** from 63.6 percent in July. Since last year, the labor force participation rate rose 0.1 percentage point.
- The national unemployment rate **declined by 0.1 percentage point to 3.9 percent in July**. State employment and unemployment data for August is scheduled for release on September 21, 2018. The national employment situation report for August will be released on Friday, September 7, 2018.



Maine Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

Monthly Change (Thousands, Seasonally Adjusted)



Maine Payroll Employment

Maine lost 1,100 jobs, or 0.17 percent, on a seasonally adjusted basis during July. In the prior month, Maine lost 500 jobs. Over the past twelve months, nonfarm payrolls in Maine increased by 5,700, or 0.92 percent. Maine nonfarm payroll employment has increased in 7 of the past 12 months.

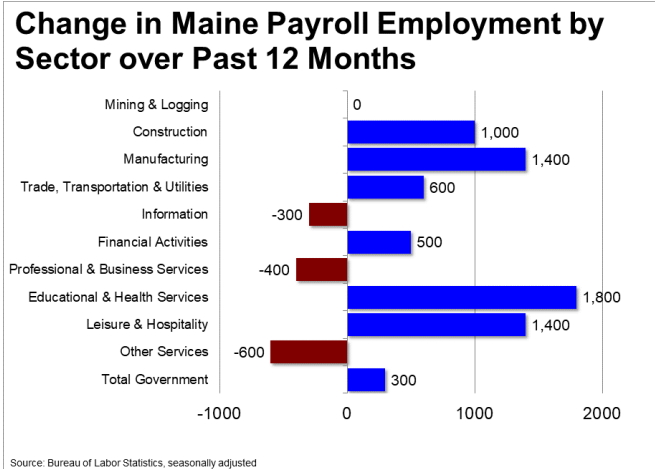
Nationally, nonfarm payrolls increased by 157,000 jobs in July, or 0.11 percent. Over the 12-month period ending July 2018, nonfarm payrolls grew by 2,400,000 jobs, or 1.64 percent. Maine ranks 27th among the 50 states and the District of Columbia for percentage gain in nonfarm payroll employment over the past 12 months.

During July, Maine's private-sector lost 1,000 jobs, or 0.19 percent. The private-sector in Maine lost 800 jobs in the prior month. Over the past twelve months, private-sector payrolls in Maine increased by 5,400, or 1.03 percent. Maine private-sector payroll employment has increased in 7 of the past 12 months.

Nationally, private-sector payroll jobs increased by 170,000 jobs in July, or 0.13 percent. Over the past 12 months, the nation's economy has added 2,392,000 jobs in the private-sector, an increase of 1.92 percent. Maine ranks 27th among the 50 states and the District of Columbia for percentage gain in private-sector payroll employment over the past 12 months.

The best performing sectors on a seasonally adjusted basis during July were Educational & Health Services (+300) and Leisure & Hospitality (+200). The poorest performing sectors during the month were Other Services (-600) and Professional & Business Services (-500).

The best performing sectors during the last twelve months were Educational & Health Services (+1,800) and Manufacturing (+1,400). The poorest performing sectors during the last twelve months were Other Services (-600) and Professional & Business Services (-400).



Maine Labor Force Statistics

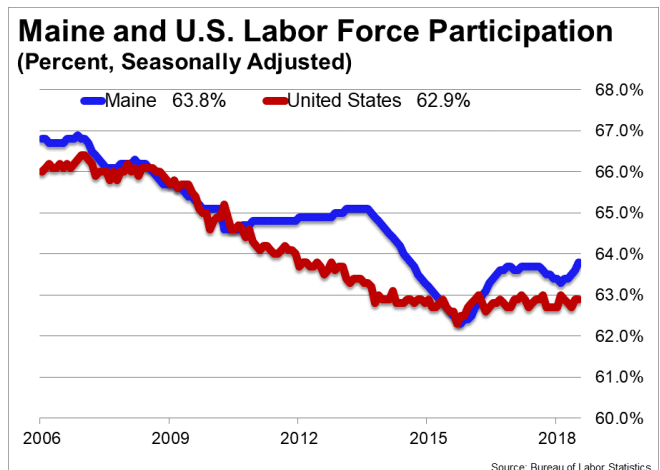
Labor Force Participation

The labor force participation rate in Maine rose to 63.8 percent in July from 63.6 percent the prior month. Among the 50 states and the District of Columbia, 22 have a higher labor force participation rate than Maine. The labor force participation rate in Maine is unchanged from a year earlier. The labor force participation rate is the percentage of the civilian noninstitutionalized population age 16 and older who are employed or actively looking for work.

The 10-year high for the labor force participation rate in Maine was 66.0 percent in August 2008. The series high for the labor force participation rate in Maine occurred in February 2000 when the labor force participation rate hit 68.8 percent. The 10-year low for the labor force participation rate was 62.3 percent in October 2015. The series low for the labor force participation rate occurred in March 1978 when the labor force participation rate hit 59.7 percent. The national labor force participation rate was unchanged at 62.9 percent, but remains near its 38-year low of 62.4 percent.

Employment-to-Population Ratio

The employment-to-population ratio, or the percentage of the Maine civilian noninstitutionalized population 16 years and older counted as employed, was unchanged at 61.8 percent in July. Among the 50 states and the District of Columbia, 20 have higher employment-to-population ratios than Maine.



The employment-to-population ratio in Maine is 0.3 percentage point higher than a year earlier.

The 10-year high for the employment-to-population ratio in Maine was 62.3 percent in August 2008. The series high for the employment-to-population ratio in Maine occurred in April 2000 when the employment-to-population ratio hit 66.4 percent. The 10-year low for the employment-to-population ratio was 59.3 percent in May 2010. The series low for the employment-to-population ratio occurred in December 1977 when the employment-to-population ratio was 55.5 percent.

The national employment-to-population ratio rose by 0.1 percentage point to 60.5 percent in July. That rate was 0.3 percentage point higher than a year earlier. The all-time high for the employment-to-population ratio was 64.7 in April 2000. The 10-year high for the employment-to-population ratio was 63.4 percent in December 2006. The recent low occurred in October 2013 when the employment-to-population ratio dipped to 58.2 percent. The last time the employment-to-population ratio posted a reading lower than 58.2 percent was July 1983.

